GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6528
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003
TESTING PURITY OF MEDICINE
P.R. KHUTE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Nicholas Piramal India Limited (NPIL) has requested the Government to test the purity of Dr. Reddy`s medicine as reported in the Economic Times dated August 10, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to(c): Yes, Sir.

M/s. Nicholas Piramal India Limited, Mumbai is importing and marketingr-human Granulocyte Colony-Stimulating Factor (r-hu-GCSF)/Filgrastim injection brand name NEUPOGEN, since September, 1993.

Based on the efficacy and safety data generated on r-hu-GCSF inj., an anti-cancer drug in the country and clearance from GEAC, Dr. Reddy`s Laboratory, Hyderabad was also accorded permission to manufacture and market r-hu-GCSF inj. on 28.6.2001.The reference given by Dr. Reddy`s Laboratory for r-hu-GCSF/Filgrastim in package insert were contested by the Nicholas Piramal, as actual literature reference pertains to NEUPOGEN (Filgrastim)Dr. Reddy`s Laboratory was instructed to delete such references. Presently the matter is under examination of a committee headed by DG, ICMR.